11th and 15th November, 1996 to coordinate immediate response including assistance of the Defence services in rescue and relief operations and arrangements for repair and restoration of roads, telecommunications, power infrastructure and other essential services. As far as the questin of Central assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh is concerned, a Central Team is visiting Andhra Pradesh on 27.30 Novmber, 1996 to make a detailed assessment of the damage.

(b) Yes, Sir. Disaster management plans are reviewed from time to time and the State Governments, who are responsible for all relief, repairs, restoration and rehabilitation matters following natural calamities, have been asked to update and improve the plans.

(c) The Central Government is required to assist the States in cases of calamities of rare severity. Andhra Pradesh cyclone is a National Calamity. This has been stated by the Prims Minister and Agriculture Minister. There is no provision in law to declare National Calamity as such but the need is to fight this calamity unitedly by State and Central Government. This is being done.

Letters from MPs Regarding Affairs of KVS

805. SHRI RAGHAVJI:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received some com munications recently from MPs demanding a high-level probe into the affairs of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, the details of each of these; and

(c) the details of actions initiated/con-templated thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) Some communications from MPs were received listing certain grievances/demands including demands for conducting an enquiry into the alleged irregularities in the past. The competent authority had decided that detailed enquiry was not required for the period upto 26th May 1995, as the allegations were obscure and without substance. For the period after 26th May 1995 information is being gathered and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Drought in Gujarat

806. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the drought-prone areas in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the district-wise details thereof;

(c) how many of these areas have currently been affected by drought conditions;

(d) whether Government have released Central Funds to the State Government to undertake relief measures in such areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise; and

(f) whether Government have prepared any long-term plan for these areas; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) In Gujarat 52 Blocks in 10 districts namely Ahmedabad, Amreli, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Junagarh, Panchmahals, Sabarkantha, The Dangs, Vadodara and Valsad have been identified as drought prone for implementation of the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP). The Desert Developmnet Programme (DDP) covers 47 Blocks in 6 districts of Banaskantha, Mehsana, Kachchh, Jamnagar, Rajkot and Surendranagar.

(c) According to the information received from the Government of Gujarat, 593 villages in 5 Talukas of Kachchh district have been declared as scarcity affected during the current year.

(d) and (e) Government of India have released the following funds to Gujarat during